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Dated: July 8, 2002

Signature: *Staci Harris*

(Staci Harris)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
T. W. Hutchens, Ph.D., et al.

Docket No.: HO-P00798US9

Application No.: 09/123,253

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: July 27, 1998

Examiner: L. Alexander

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
DESORPTION AND IONIZATION OF
ANALYTES

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231
Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this amendment in response to the Office Action mailed January 8, 2002 in the above-captioned application. Applicants request reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks that follow.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated January 8, 2002, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 54, 55, 58, 59, 62, 72-74, 77, 78, 81, 84, 85, 92, 93, 96, 97, 100, 102-104, and 114-119 without prejudice and acquiescence.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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